

that when they are in bondage we feel that, but when we can help break that, we will also break bondages on ourselves and make us use the greatness of America for the goodness of the world. It is that goodness that keeps us moving toward greatness.

This is not a large sum of money we are talking about, but it is critically important.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I salute the Senator from Kansas. I know he and the Senator from New Jersey have demonstrated extraordinary leadership on many issues that have come before this Senate, but certainly on the Darfur Accountability Act. I am an original cosponsor of that bipartisan measure and a strong supporter.

The latest estimates tell us more than 300,000 people have died in Darfur. The world has let this happen. In spite of all of our anguished promises after Rwanda that this would never happen again, it is happening again. Reports from aid workers back from Sudan state that attacks on the ground are still taking place. Villages are still being burned. Much of Darfur is still in a climate of terror. People are still afraid to go out for basics, to venture out for water, for wood, or the necessities of life.

Early this week, Human Rights Watch released a new report that Sudanese security forces, including police deployed to protect displaced persons, and allied jingaweit militias continue to commit rape and sexual violence on a daily basis. Refugee camps are no refuge. Women who fled Darfur to refugee camps in Chad have been imprisoned by Chadian authorities for trying to collect firewood outside their camps. Many of them were raped while in jail.

This has become a charnel house. This is an inferno. This is one of the rings of hell, and it is happening on our watch.

In some areas of Sudan, women who are raped by the jingaweit militia are now being threatened with prosecution. In short, Darfur still cries out for action. If these conditions do not constitute an emergency, I do not know what does.

Do we want to return to the Senate 6 months from now and lament the fact that another 300,000 victims have been added to the death tolls in this area? The amendment which will be offered later seeks a new U.N. Security Council resolution with sanctions, concerted United States diplomacy, an extension of the current arms embargo to cover the Government of Sudan, the freezing of assets and denial of visas to those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, accelerated assistance of the African Union Mission, and a military no-fly zone in Darfur.

One of the other components of this amendment is the appointment of a new special envoy to seek peace in

Sudan to fill the role Ambassador Danforth played so well. As in many things, Pope John Paul II was ahead of this. He sent a special envoy last year so that voices of the people of Darfur might be heard.

The Bible tells us: Blessed be the peacemaker. We need to be peacemakers today. Let us hold the Government of Sudan accountable for its crimes and for these atrocities. Let us help the people of Darfur, and in doing so let us help to end this genocide.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THUNE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I have requests to make on behalf of the managers of the bill with respect to amendments that have been cleared on both sides of the aisle.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 422

Mr. COCHRAN. I send an amendment to the desk, on behalf of Mr. LEAHY and Mr. OBAMA, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendments are set aside. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN], for Mr. LEAHY and Mr. OBAMA, proposes an amendment numbered 422.

Mr. COCHRAN. I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 194, line 14, delete "should" and insert in lieu thereof "shall".

On page 194, line 16, delete "Avian flu" and insert in lieu thereof "avian influenza virus, to be administered by the United States Agency for International Development".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 422) was agreed to.

Mr. COCHRAN. I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 370, AS MODIFIED

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 370, as modified, on behalf of Mr. SALAZAR, concerning democracy assistance for Lebanon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN], for Mr. SALAZAR, proposes an amendment numbered 370, as modified.

Mr. COCHRAN. I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide assistance to promote democracy in Lebanon)

On page 175, on line 24, strike "\$1,631,300,000" and insert "\$1,636,300,000". On page 176, line 12 after the colon insert the following: "Provided further, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for programs and activities to promote democracy, including political party development, in Lebanon and such amount shall be managed by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State."

On page 179, line 24, strike "\$30,500,000" and insert "\$25,500,000".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 370), as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. COCHRAN. I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 423

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I now send an amendment to the desk, on behalf of Mr. LEAHY, providing reprogramming authority for certain State Department accounts. I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN], for Mr. LEAHY, proposes an amendment numbered 423.

Mr. COCHRAN. I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide reprogramming authority for certain accounts in the Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005)

On page 183, after line 23, insert the following new general provision:

SEC. —. The amounts set forth in the eighth proviso in the Diplomatic and Consular Programs appropriation in the FY 2005 Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (P.L. 108-447, Div. B) may be subject to reprogramming pursuant to section 605 of that Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 423) was agreed to.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to and move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.